

ABSTRACT

A centrifuge apparatus for processing blood comprising a bottom spring-loaded support plate; a top support plate; an axial inlet/outlet for blood to be
5 processed and processed components of the blood, the axial inlet/outlet being
attached to the top support plate by a rotating seal assembly; a variable volume
separation chamber mounted between the bottom support plate and the top support
plate, the variable volume separation chamber being fluidly connected to the axial
inlet/outlet; a pump fluidly connected to the axial inlet/outlet; and a rotary drive
10 unit attached to the bottom support plate. The top support plate is fixed vertically
and the bottom spring-loaded support plate is mounted on springs that maintain
pressure on the variable volume separation chamber and allow the bottom support
plate to move vertically.

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